

THE PICTORIAL UNION.

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THE NEW STATE CAPITOL.—The present number of the Pictorial Union is entitled to the name of the State House, which has just been erected on the site of the former edifice destroyed by fire in the great conflagration of July, 1854. This structure has been built with direct reference to its being occupied as the Capitol of the State, as this city will probably be fixed upon as the permanent capital of California. All who have been to the building will be at once struck by the merit of which this article is a description, a perfect counterpart of the original. In design and execution our artists have been equally happy, and the result of their labors as exhibited in this view is exceedingly creditable to them, as the edifice itself is to the taste and skill of our Sacramento mechanicians. An accurate and concise description of the Capitol has been given by a recent visitor, whose account we herewith publish for the information of our distant readers:

The county of Sacramento will have expended in preparing this house for the Legislature nearly \$200,000. There have been 2,000,000 bricks used in its construction, 150 thousand feet of lumber, 200 tons of stone, 23 tons of iron, 150 tons of timber, 5000 pounds of lead, 5000 feet of wire, with a portico on the south side, 50 feet by 20 feet, exclusive of the steps. The basement is divided into forty-nine cells, and will be used (when the Legislature shall have ceased to occupy the building) as a county prison. The principal floor contains the two legislative halls, and for the use of the Senate and Assembly, besides various offices and committee rooms. The third story is also divided into offices. On the first floor are two large and convenient offices with treasure vaults in each, of the largest, strongest, and best description. The entrance hall to the building is 12 wide and 71 feet long, from which access is had to a third story gallery, otherwise intended for the use of the members of the assembly, 16 1/2 feet by 45 feet, and 23 feet high in the clear. It is furnished in a style both elegant and chaste—coupled antae at intervals of eleven feet, supporting an architrave and cornice of bold projection and elaborate encirclement. A gallery is also being fitted up in this hall for the use of spectators, capable of seating two hundred persons.

The Senate Chamber is somewhat smaller than the Assembly Hall, but is admirably proportioned and decorated in the richest style. It is 71 feet long by 30 feet wide, and 25 feet high in the clear. It will have a gallery in the north end, capable of seating 120 spectators. All of the rooms are lighted by large and elegant gas lamps, which are of iron and water pipes have been laid all through the building, and ample provision has been made for heating, ventilation, &c.

The exterior of the building will present a magnificent appearance. The portico on the south end consists of ten Ionic columns (dusted) supporting an entablature and pediment of great beauty, all the mouldings being classically carved. The main entrance is several steps above the seventeen feet high, and elegantly dressed. The steps which surround the portico are of granite, and measure in the aggregate over 100 feet in length. The floor of the portico will be paved with marble tiles, as will also the entrance hall.



THE NEW STATE CAPITOL.

The building was designed by a young architect—D. Farquharson, of Sacramento—under whose immediate inspection it is being erected. Messrs. Nougues & Welton, of San Francisco, are the contractors, and the work is to be completed in about six months, the public are indebted to the exertions and management of Judge Heard, of Sacramento, who has acted in the matter in a way that must commend him to his fellow citizens. The Court of Sessions appointed Frank Denver, Esq., Superintendent of the whole work, to whom the highest credit is awarded for his assiduity and faithful discharge of his duties.

REV. J. A. BENTON'S CHURCH.—The new church edifice of the First Congregational Society, under the pastoral charge of Rev. J. A. Benton, is now nearly completed in its several parts. It is a large, Gothic structure, one of the finest structures of the kind in the State. It is constructed of brick, the main building having a breadth of 62 feet, a depth of 56 feet, and being capable of seating a congregation of about seven hundred and fifty persons. In front is a symmetrical tower, seventy feet high, projecting eight feet to the sides from the main building. The entrance is also of brick, two stories in height, and surmounted by twenty-six feet, joins upon the rear, affording access to the pulpit by a private passage. The floor of the main building is elevated four feet above the grade. The ceiling is twenty-five feet high in the choir. A gallery, twelve feet wide, for the accommodation of the choir, extends along the entire front. The pulpit recesses sufficiently to give ample space for the side entrance, and is seemingly well located to give effect to the voices. The body of the church is lit with six chandeliers adapted for gas, which it is contemplated to introduce at the earliest opportunity. The exterior is of light-colored brick, for the several sides of the tower and a bell to weigh about 1400 pounds, have been ordered from the East, and will probably be soon received. The means of access to the interior of the building are ample, through three spacious entrances. Every part of the interior will be plastered, the greater proportion of the work having already been completed. The building stands on a seven acre lot, which fronts on the street, and near the center of the lot, to permit the planting of trees and shrubbery on all sides. The style of architecture is what may be called a castellated gothic, and strikes the eye with a pleasing effect. The whole cost of the church, when completed, will be about \$20,000.

CRESCENT CITY.—Subjoined will be found a brief description of this the northern seaport of California. Crescent City is situated directly on the coast, and about twelve miles only north of the mouth of the Eel River, 124 deg. 10' merid. west. Its harbor is open but safe in summer. It is a dangerous place in the winter months, however, for sailing vessels. A small outlet would render it safe and commodious at all seasons. The main street of the village is half a mile in length, and elevated, and with a few structures mainly, although it can boast of substantial and commodious brick stores. The town contains 500 inhabitants, a Presbyterian Church, a Masonic Hall, stores, express offices, saloons, &c.



REV. J. A. BENTON'S CHURCH.



RUINS OF THE STATE CAPITOL, After the July fire.



OVERFLOW IN THE MOUNTAINS.



RATTLESNAKE BAR.



CALIFORNIA HORSEMEN.



GROUND SLUICING.



SNOW IN THE MOUNTAINS.



SAN FRANCISCO BY MOONLIGHT.



CRESCENT CITY.



MUD SPRINGS.

PICTORIAL UNION FOR THE HOLIDAYS.



MISSISSIPPI BAR.



MIDDLE BAR BRIDGE.



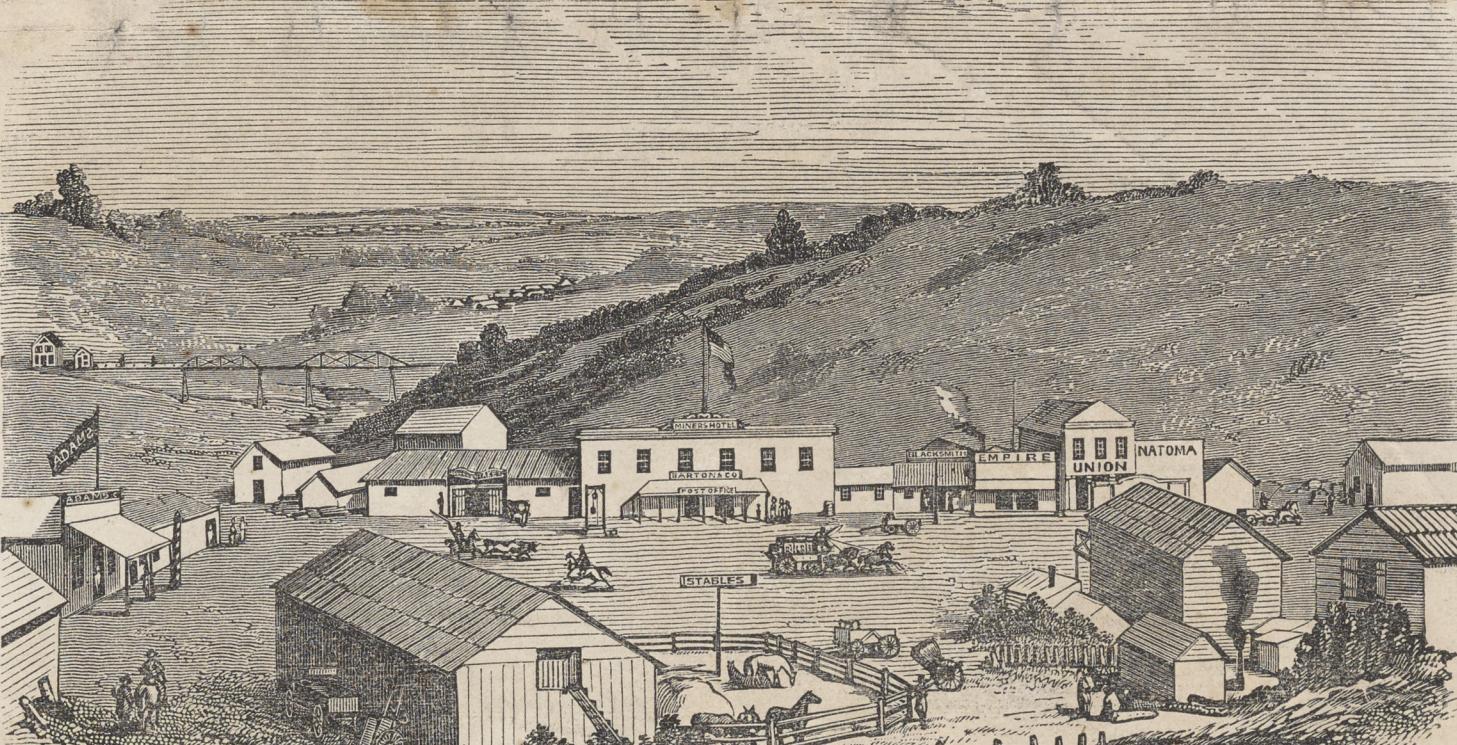
THE TOWN OF BIDWELL—Before the Fire.



NATOMA WATER WORKS.



PRairie CITY.



MORMON ISLAND.

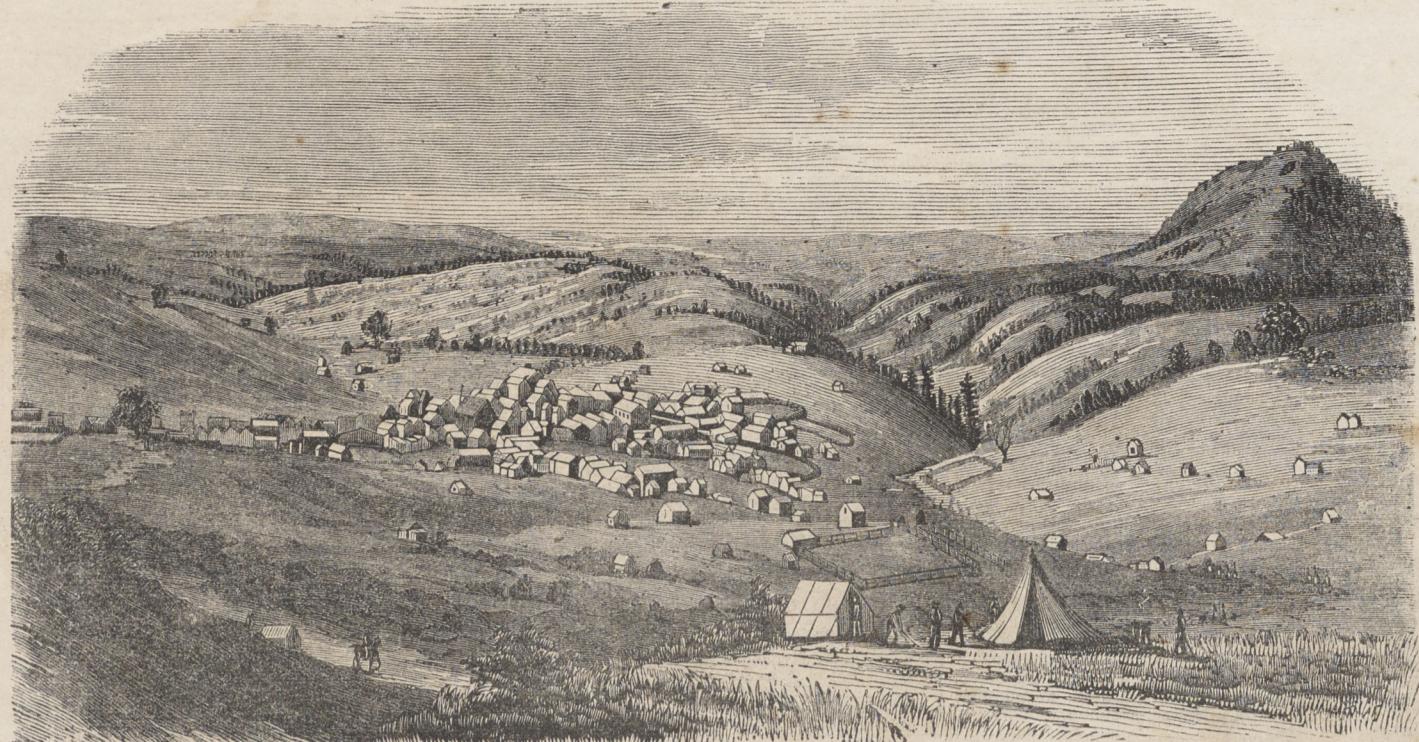


SUTTER'S MILL, near Coloma—Where the first Gold was discovered.



STOCKTON.

PICTORIAL UNION FOR THE HOLIDAYS.



TOWN VIEW OF MOKELUMNE HILL—Before the Fire.



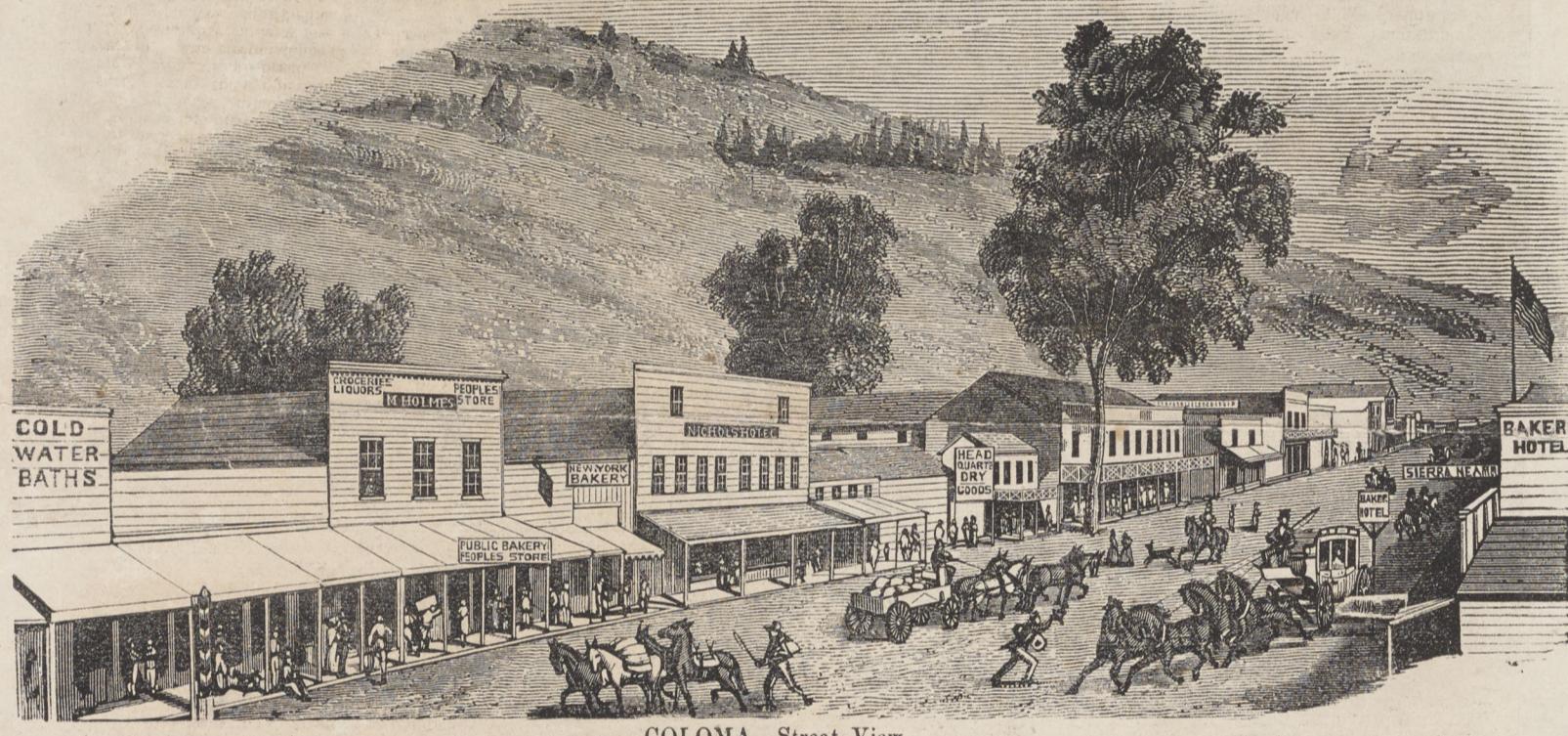
ST REET VIEW OF MOKELUMNE HILL—Before the Fire.



COLUMBIA—Before the Fire.



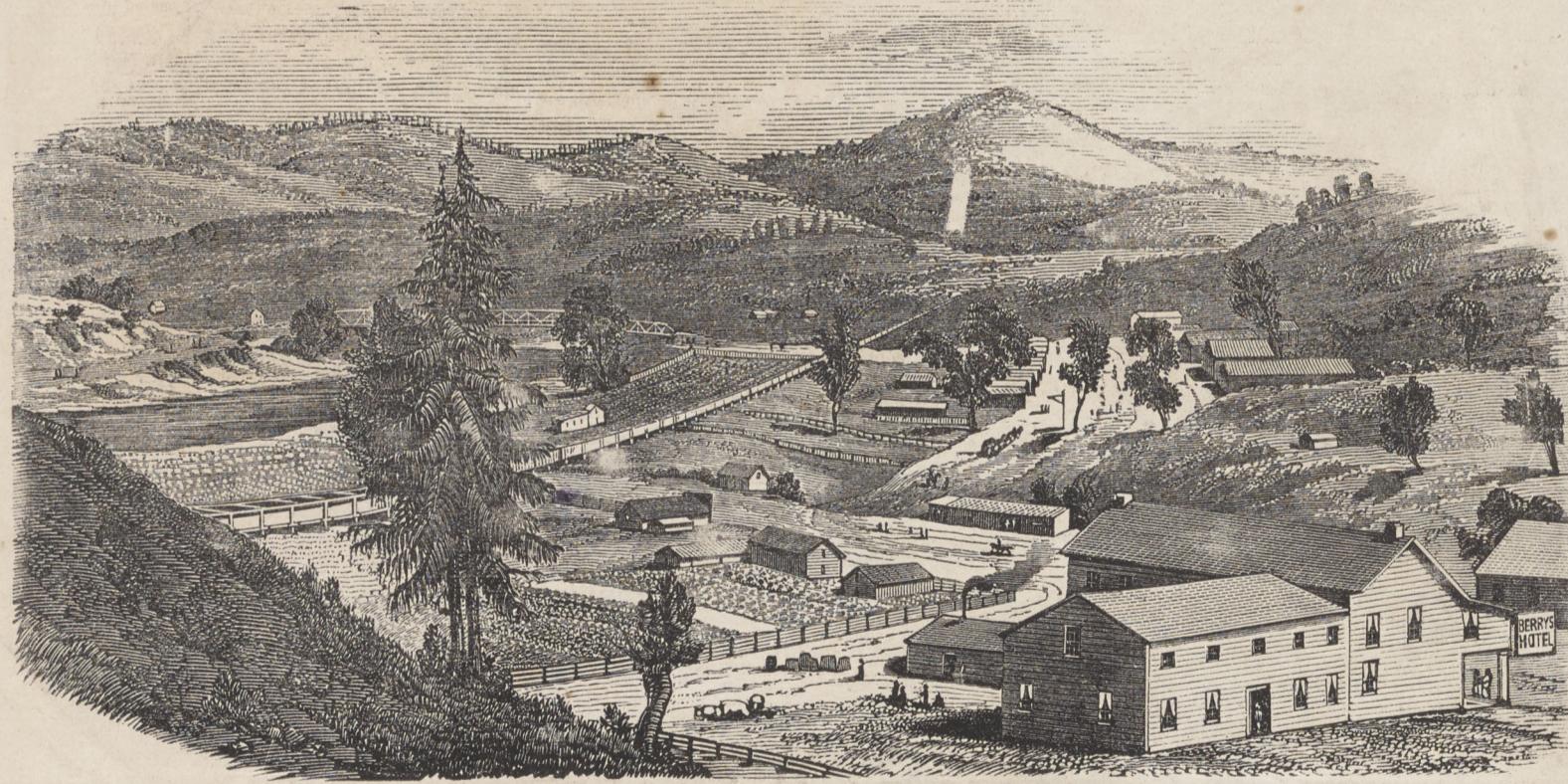
APPROACH TO JAMESTOWN.



COLOMA—Street View.



CAMPO SECO.



SALMON FALLS AND NATOMA WATER WORKS.



PLACERVILLE.



BENICIA IN 1850.



MARYSVILLE—1853.

PICTORIAL UNION FOR THE HOLIDAYS.



ONION VALLEY AND PILOT PEAK.



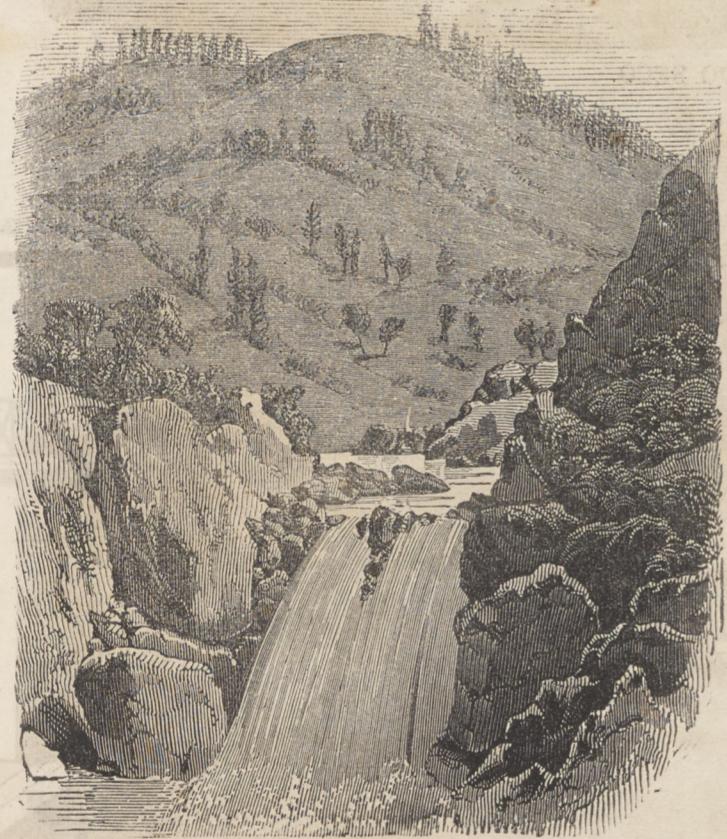
CARSON HILL.



LOWER PLACERVILLE.



SONORA—1853.



FALLS NEAR MURDERER'S BAR.



SALMON FALLS.



GREENWOOD VALLEY.



WEAVERVILLE, Trinity County.



NEVADA—1852.